

What is claimed is:

- 1                    1.        An absorbent structure for use in a disposable absorbent product  
2        for absorbing bodily fluids, said structure comprising: a fluid storage layer including  
3        matrix fibers and a superabsorbent polymer for receiving fluids and a distribution strip  
4        positioned below said fluid storage layer, said distribution strip including cellulosic  
5        fibers and having a basis weight of between 45 grams per square meter and 140 grams  
6        per square meter and having a density of between 0.20 grams per cubic centimeter and  
7        0.60 grams per cubic centimeter.
- 1                    2.        The absorbent structure of claim 1 wherein said cellulosic fibers  
2        of said distribution strip are selected from the group consisting of cotton linters,  
3        mercerized cellulose, fluff pulp, chemically treated cellulose and mixtures thereof.
- 1                    3.        The absorbent structure of claim 2, wherein said chemically  
2        treated cellulose is treated with a polyvalent ion selected from the group consisting of  
3        aluminum, calcium, magnesium and mixtures thereof.
- 1                    4.        The absorbent structure of claim 1 wherein said absorbent  
2        product is selected from the group consisting of diapers, feminine hygiene pads and  
3        adult incontinence products.
- 1                    5.        The absorbent structure of claim 1 wherein said distribution  
2        strip has a basis weight of between 75 grams per square meter and 110 grams per  
3        square meter.
- 1                    6.        The absorbent structure of claim 1 wherein said distribution  
2        strip has a density of between 0.25 grams per cubic centimeter and 0.55 grams per  
3        cubic centimeter.

1                   7.       The absorbent structure of claim 1 wherein said distribution  
2 strip is made by a wet-laid process.

1                   8.       The absorbent structure of claim 1 wherein said distribution  
2 strip is made by an air-laid process.

1                   9.       An absorbent product for acquisition, distribution and storage of  
2 bodily fluids, said product comprising:

3                   a fluid pervious top sheet;

4                   a fluid impervious backsheet;

5                   an absorbent structure disposed between said topsheet and said  
6 backsheet, said absorbent structure including:

7                   an fluid aquisition and distribution layer;

8                   a storage layer positioned beneath the acquisition and  
9 distribution layer and in fluid communication therewith, said storage layer including  
10 SAP; and

11                   a distribution strip positioned beneath the storage layer and in  
12 fluid communication therewith, said distribution strip including cellulosic fibers and  
13 having a basis weight of between 45 grams per square meter and 140 grams per square  
14 meter and having a density of between 0.20 grams per cubic centimeter and 0.60 grams  
15 per cubic centimeter.